

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICANS OBSERVE "NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER"

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Thursday, May 4 marks the 44th consecutive observance of the National Day of Prayer.

I congratulate all those Americans who will pause on that date to thank God for the blessings He has bestowed on our country, and to ask for His continued guidance for our Nation, its people and its leaders.

Even as we mourn the senseless tragedy that occurred in Oklahoma City which killed and injured so many of our fellow citizens and brought sadness to so many other Americans, we have much for which to be thankful.

We are free to practice—or not practice—the religion of our choice. We are free to think for ourselves and believe what we wish, and we are free to voice our opinions without fear. We are blessed with a free press that keeps us informed of what is right, and what is wrong, with our Government and our other public institutions.

In comparison to other nations of the world, we are a prosperous people—well-fed, well-housed and well-clothed. Our system does not guarantee success for every one of our citizens, but it does allow each American to advance as high as his talents and hard work can carry him.

Yes, our Nation has problems, and yes, there is injustice in our country. But in the United States, more than in any other nation in the world, all of our people have an opportunity to succeed. That opportunity is what drew immigrants to "the new world" in the 17th century; it's what drew settlers to "the colonies" in the 18th century; it's what motivated countless men and women to settle the West in the 19th century; and it's what continues to draw men and women from around the world to our shores in the 20th century.

Just as important, we Americans have in place a judicial system within which injustices can be eliminated, and within which wrongs can be righted peacefully, without resolve to violence. While our system of justice is not perfect, and while mistakes can occur, no one can deny the fact that America's judicial system has served our country and our people well for more than two centuries.

The idea that we Americans should pause and reflect on our blessings, and ask for God's guidance, is nothing new. National day of prayer have been part of our Nation's heritage since the first one was declared by the Continental Congress in 1775. Through the influence of Gen. George Washington, many of our founding fathers and succeeding presidents, prayer became an essential foundation upon which the United States of America was established and upon which it has grown.

On Thursday, through the collective prayers of citizens from every State and territory of our country, all Americans will have the oppor-

tunity to acknowledge our dependence upon God; recognize our need to renew moral values in our personal and professional lives; seek God's guidance for our Nation's governmental and community leaders; give thanks for the many blessings which our country has received from Him through the years; pledge ourselves to the restoration of marriage and family commitments; and intercede for healing and reconciliation within our Nation.

The participation of millions of American men and women in this year's National Day of Prayer will ensure that the event will be a success. As someone who believes in the power of prayer, and as someone who depends upon prayer in my daily life—both personal and professional—I sincerely thank everyone who takes part in this important annual event, as well as every American who keeps the interests of our nation, its people and its leaders in their prayers on a daily basis.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and may God bless you, our great Nation, and each and every American.

SALUTE TO THE GLENS FALLS ARMORY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for 100 years, the Glens Falls Armory has been a conspicuous landmark on Warren Street and a source of pride for the people of this small city I call home.

During those 100 years, units headquartered at the armory have served in both world wars. At the outbreak of World War I, Company K, 105th Infantry, 27th Division was activated from August 8, 1917, through April 1, 1919. In World War II, Company K of the 108th Infantry, 27th Division was activated from October 15, 1940, through December 31, 1945.

The armory was designed by the famous architect Isaac G. Perry, who helped design and construct the State Capital in Albany. The armory consists of 24,055 square feet, including a garage added in 1959.

First opened in 1895 to house a company of the New York National Guard, the armory presently serves as headquarters for two NYNG units, the 646th Medical Company and Detachment 1, Company C, 3d Battalion, 108th Infantry.

That first unit, the 18th Separate Company, was also known as the Rockwell Corps or the Citizens Corp. And that, Mr. Speaker, reminds me why the armory is so special.

It's a symbol of the citizen soldier who has fought in all our wars, from Concord and Lexington to the arid plains of Iraq.

The backbone of our Armed Forces for 200 years has been the National Guard and Reserves, men and women from every walk of life who proudly devote several hours a month to the defense of their country.

The response of this country to crises has always been speeded by the high state of readiness of our guardsmen and reservists. I can't tell you how proud I am of them.

The men and women who serve in these units are all-around outstanding citizens, contributing to their communities in more ways than one. The armory itself has long been a focus of community life in the Glens Falls area.

Mr. Speaker, on May 6, the scene will be the scene of a centennial celebration, complete with tours, displays, and speeches.

I ask all Members to join me in a salute to the Glens Falls Armory and to all the patriotic Americans who have served there over the last 100 years.

SUE MIKOLAJCZYK RECEIVES 1995 POLISH HERITAGE AWARD

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 1995

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Sue Mikolajczyk on receiving the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee's 1995 Polish Heritage Award.

In selecting Sue Mikolajczyk as the 1995 Polish Heritage Award recipient, the Pulaski Council has honored a woman who has devoted countless hours of work to preserving the richness of Milwaukee's Polish-American heritage.

It has long been a goal of our community to build a Polish-American Community Center. This goal is closer to becoming a reality because of the commitment, hard work, and sheer determination of people like Sue Mikolajczyk. Her outstanding efforts as coordinator of Polishfest's weekly bingo games have helped to ensure a steady source of funds for the development of the community center and more importantly, have helped to sustain the dream which guides our Polish-American community forward.

In addition to her involvement with Polishfest, Sue Mikolajczyk has been actively involved in a number of other Polish cultural organizations in our area and has assumed leadership positions in several of these organizations. Groups such as the Polish National Alliance, the Polish-American Congress, Polanki, and the Polish Womens' Alliance have all benefited from Sue's talents, determination, and willingness to take charge.

At a time when it seems that more and more people are forgetting their roots, Milwaukee's Polish-American heritage, thanks to the efforts of people like Sue Mikolajczyk, remains as alive and vibrant as ever. I commend Sue on her outstanding efforts on behalf of Milwaukee's Polish-American community and I congratulate her on receiving the 1995 Polish Heritage Award.

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